

PC 1/1/7/35-  
2nd August 1965

Dear Mr. Eaton,

Thankyou for your letter of 28th June.



I haven't replied with my usual promptness because the book was on loan to Marion's Family and is now back'cheek by jowl'with Dicken's works on our top bookshelf (see Oxford Mail photo). A worthy place for your wonderful but sad story of a good and great Mutual Friend. I knew practically nothing before of South African politics but having read every word of 'HOFMEYR', now I can understand much that was strange before. He and I seldom went deeper than two schoolboys(or club-boys) can be expected to and I find that my simplicity is tempered with a sly humour that refuses to be kept under by circumstances<sup>or subjects</sup>. Thank you very much for searching so carefully and bringing so much to light not only about J.H.H. but also about his Friends. When we look into our shaving mirrors it is never as we should like it to be and we all need a Friend to hold it at the right angle to get a clear view.

Trusting that you and yours are well and happy. Our weather is always a bone of gossip if not contention and this year is no exception. But it is a wonderful, lush green year lacking sunshine to ripen the crops and make holiday weather. We make the best of each fine day and take our sandwiches into the surrounding meadows of this lovely city. If you do manage a trip over here, try and come to see our 'Golden Journey' and we should be good guides to places you may not have seen in Oxford.

With thanks again for your masterpiece and our copy of it. From my point of view it is 'perfectly expressed biography'.

Kindest thoughts from both,

Babu

(King.)